

*pastoris*; in short, the same spring flora as in our corn-fields, only some months later. On some uncultivated spots under clumps of palms I found *Allium Chamæmoly*, L., plentiful in flower, as well as *Arum Arisarum*, L., which occurred also in the olive-groves with *Corrigiola littoralis*, L., *Bellis annua*, L., and a small *Sisymbrium*? The banks of the Guadalquivir are clothed with *Tamarix gallica*, *Ricinus communis* and *Malvæ*; *Anacyclus Valentinus* already unfolded its flowering heads here and there, and on loamy declivities on the other side of the river the *Vinca major* with *Iris scorpioides* before mentioned, and *Doronicum Bellidiastrum*, flower in abundance. The hedges between the orange-groves for the most consisted of *Agave americana*, *Cactus Opuntia*, *Osyris alba* and *Lonicera Caprifolium*.

As the weather did not permit my making daily excursions, and as moreover the vegetation was so backward, I was not a little happy to have an opportunity of inspecting the valuable herbarium of the late botanist Don Claudio Boutelou, the pupil of Cabanilles, which contains above 15,000 species. The present possessor of this collection, Don Pablo Boutelou, son of the late botanist, had the kindness to place it at my disposal. In this herbarium I have not only in a great measure become acquainted with the flora of Seville, but also with the Spanish flora in general, as it contained a great portion of the collections of Clemente, Lagasca, and Cabanilles. M. Boutelou is the present professor of botany in the university of Seville, but he has almost wholly relinquished this branch of natural history, since he has neither any pupils, nor is he in the smallest degree assisted by the government. The botanical garden, of which he was the director, has been unavoidably given up for want of pecuniary resources, and it is at present a complete waste. Boutelou is also director of the gardens of the Alcázar and of the public walks, which, although at first laid out in the stiff French fashion, are kept up in a manner truly praiseworthy.

In the commencement of the approaching new year I think of visiting the town of Sanlúcar de Barrameda, lying at the mouth of the Guadalquivir, where I hope the vegetation will be more advanced, or at least that the shore will yield a richer harvest of maritime plants.

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#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

*A Monograph of the British Nudibranchiate Mollusca, with Figures of all the Species.* By Joshua Alder and Albany Hancock. London, printed for the Ray Society, 1845. 4to. No. 1.

THE ten plates in this number represent—1. *Doris flammea*, 2. *Doris Johnstoni*, 3. *Idalia aspersa*, 4. *Dendronotus arborescens*, 5. *Eolis alba*, 6. *Eolis concinna*, 7. *Eolis olivacea*, 8. *Eolis tricolor*, 9. *Eolis Farrani*, and 10. *Eolis despecta*. We have felt a difficulty, as we turned over the leaves to make this enumeration, to suppress the repeated expression of our delight. The figures of the species are admirable

in every point of view: the position of the animals well-chosen to exhibit their characters and habits,—nothing overstrained, nothing exaggerated,—and yet, sobered down as they are to nature, nothing can well be imagined more chaste and beautiful in colouring, or more curious in exterior decoration. The letter-press is not less worthy of praise for its correct and almost severe simplicity. The singular beauty of the objects before them has never tempted the authors to the indulgence of a figurative and flowery style, which, while it might have rendered the descriptions obscure, would only have marred the pleasing effect which these portraits must produce on every cultivated mind. All is in keeping,—artists and authors,—and every page of the work bespeaks the correct and excellent taste of the authors of it.

The promise which this number gives us of the value of that which is to come, will be kept, we feel assured, to the letter; and what pleases us most of all, is the fact, that this beautiful volume will have a circulation far beyond what similar works have hitherto had; that it will not be confined to the libraries of the rich, but will travel down, unaided by the cheapness of plain copies and of inferior paper, to the table of the great bulk of the naturalists of this country. It is this diffusive quality of the “Ray Society” that makes us set a value upon it. Here it has placed before a great number, pictures of forms which are novel and hitherto undreamt of by them; and we, who have been long familiar with the animals, can almost envy their new-born feelings of delight at the contemplation of this now unveiled feature in the portraiture of the Divine Mind. There is a great deal of good done, were the effect of this monograph to stop at this; but we even cherish the hope that it may induce some to taste a higher pleasure in the personal study of these “elaborate compositions” of our and their Creator. We cannot but wish all success to a Society which affords so rich a treat at so small an expense.

## PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

April 22, 1845.—Richard C. Griffith, Esq., in the Chair.

“Descriptions of new species of *Helix*, in the cabinet of H. Cuming, Esq.,” by Dr. L. Pfeiffer.

*HELIX PONDEROSA*, Pfr. *Hel. T. imperforatâ, subglobosâ, tumidâ, solidâ, ponderosâ, leviusculâ (striis incrementi et concentricis confertissimis vix perspicuis), albâ, basi epidermide nitidâ, pallidè corned indutâ; anfractibus 4½ convexiusculis, ultimo subangulato, fasciis albis hydrophanis infra angulum obsolete notato; columellâ rectâ, latâ, perobliquâ; aperturâ subauriformi, intus albâ; peristomate latè reflexo.*

Diam. long. 23; transv. 17; altit. 13½ lin.

From Banguay, province of North Ilocos, isle of Luzon: found on leaves of trees. (Cuming.)